GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3623
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008
CHILD ABUSE BY TOURISTS
Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that incidents of child abuse by tourists are increasing on a large scale in those places where tourism is developing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether according to the report of "Trafficking in Women and Children in India", child abuse by tourists are taking very serious turn in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to enact a law in order to punish the tourists and guides indulging in child abuse activities; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Tourism does not compile the data on incidents of child abuse or trafficking in women and children in India by tourists.

(e) & (f): 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such, registration, investigation, detection, and prevention of crime, including cases relating to crimes against women and children is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Government of India has been issuing guidelines from time to time to make concerted efforts to improve the administration of Criminal Justice System and to take effective measures to control crime against vulnerable sections including women and children.